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Giuliani endorses Romney

Rudy Giuliani formally endorsed Mitt Romney on Monday, insisting that the former Massachusetts governor has clinched the Republican nomination "fair and square."

The former New York City mayor said Romney has proven he's the "most effective Republican" in the race.

Giuliani's backing comes after years of open animosity between the former political rivals, who ran against each other during the 2008 Republican presidential primary.

Giuliani is the latest Republican holdout to back Romney's nomination

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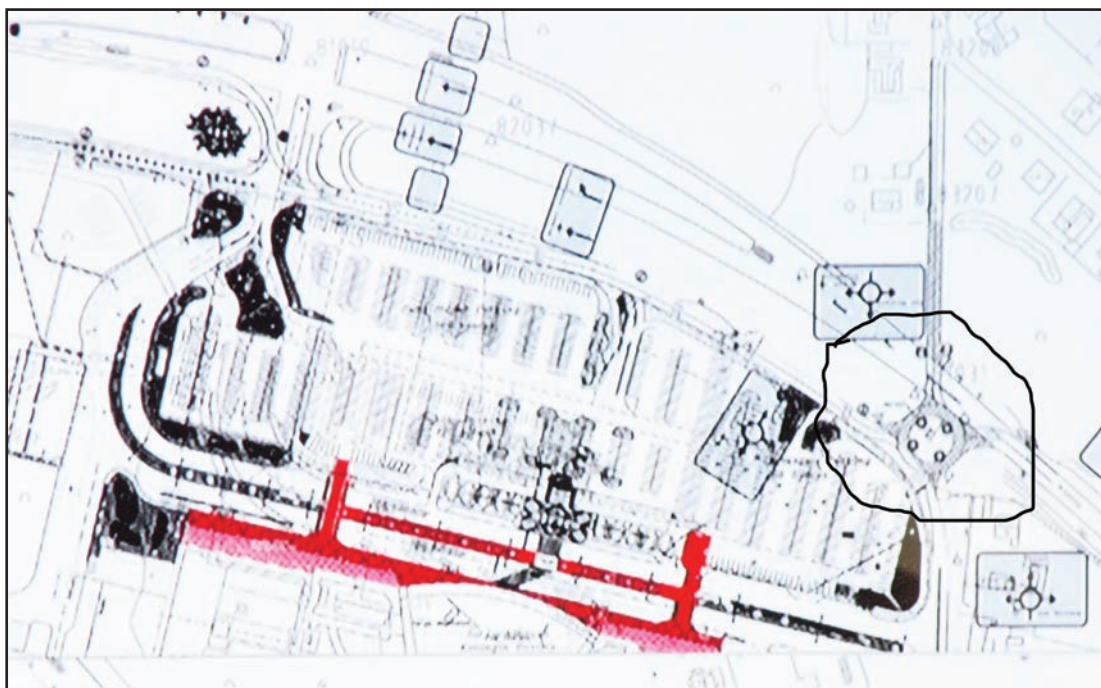
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Work to commence on airport turbo-rotunda in June



Traffic will be averted to mini rotunda on east side of airport

Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman and Minister of Infrastructure, Environment and Immigration, Benny Sevinger, welcomed Deputy Director of the Department of Public Works, Marlon Croes, to the ministerial offices to explain the major project of a turbo-rotunda, which will start work in June.

They expressed the hope this will be the first phase of the Green Corridor, an important improvement and widening of the thoroughfare from Oranjestad to San Nicolas. The rotunda is financed by public funds; it is not part of the PPP-Public/Private Partnership tender that has been circulated for the realization of the Green

Corridor.

The rotunda is intended to relieve traffic snares at this junction, particularly at commuter hours, much like the one at the Wendy's in Oranjestad or on the Sasaki Highway by Pizza Hut, but this will be even larger and have more lanes. The final diameter will be 70 meters.

Continued on page 2

Dutch cabinet quits after rift with far-right



Dutch prime minister Mark Rutte leaves the royal palace in the Hague after submitting his government's resignation to Queen Beatrix.

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte's liberal government resigned yesterday after the collapse of

its parliamentary partnership with a far-right party, paving the way for early elections.

Continued on page 2

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Dutch cabinet quits after rift with far-right

Continued from page 1

The premier, who had been under pressure for weeks, tendered his cabinet's resignation at a two-hour afternoon meeting with Queen Beatrix at her Hague palace.

A few minutes after Rutte left the palace, the Dutch government's information service said in a statement: "Prime Minister Mark Rutte has offered to her Majesty the Queen the resignation of all ministers and deputy ministers with immediate effect."

"The Queen is considering the resignation, but has asked all ministers and deputy ministers to continue to do everything that is necessary in the interests of the kingdom," the statement added.

The resignation had been widely expected since the weekend when Rutte acknowledged that a rift with anti-Islam politician Geert Wilders' Freedom Party would likely lead to early elections, otherwise due in May 2015.

Although not part of the ruling coalition, Wilders' party had effectively guaranteed the government's majority for the last 18 months by agreeing to support it in parliament.

That arrangement came to an abrupt halt at the weekend when talks on a new package of austerity measures

founded.

A debate has now been scheduled for 2.00 pm (1200 GMT) today before the Lower House in which Rutte is expected to address MPs.

"The ball is now in parliament's court," Finance Minister Jan Kees de Jager told reporters, adding that he hoped to have "more clarity" today on the austerity package, for which Brussels gave an April 30 deadline.

Rutte's liberal VVD party, its coalition partner the Christian Democrats and Wilders' Freedom Party had been negotiating on a near-daily basis, in private, for seven weeks but divisions were made public when Wilders walked out on Saturday.

The turmoil has raised fears that the Netherlands' gold plated triple A credit rating could be in danger. It is one of only four eurozone countries to still retain AAA status among the three main credit rating agencies.

Rutte, Verhagen and Wilders had held near daily talks at the premier's official Catshuis residence in a bid to reach agreement on how to cut 16 billion euros (US\$21 billion) from the budget, which stood at 4.7 percent of gross domestic product for 2011.

The EU's deficit ceiling is three percent of GDP.

The talks had been in their final stages when Wilders dropped his political bombshell and the Dutch press said yesterday the country was still in shock.

A visibly upset Rutte told reporters Saturday: "I have to inform you today that the three parties have failed to come to common answers."

Elections now seemed likely, he added.

The austerity package at the center of the row included a slight raise in Value-Added Tax (VAT), a freeze on civil servants' wages and a cut in spending in both the health and development aid sectors.

"The plan is not in the interest of Freedom Party voters," Wilders announced at a press conference, held at the same time on Saturday afternoon.

"We cannot live up to the demands Brussels is putting on us. Money is being taken from the wallets of pensioners."

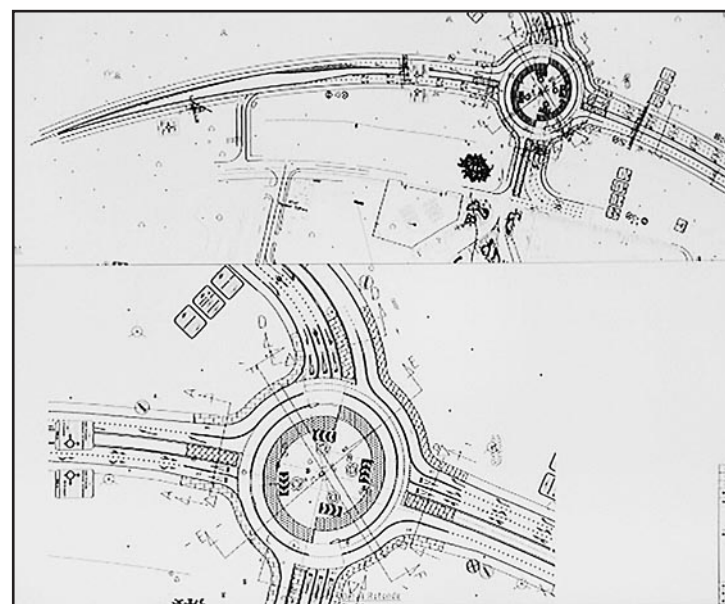
"We remain confident that the Dutch government will continue its efforts to adopt measures, not to please Brussels or win votes in an election, but because this is beneficial to the country's economy and to its citizens," Amadeu Altafaj, spokesman for European Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs Olli Rehn said in Brussels.

Rutte's government was sworn-in in October 2010 following the fall of the then prime minister Jan Peter Balkenende in February that year in a dispute over continued military support to NATO forces in Afghanistan.

Wilders' eurosceptic party support had ensured that Rutte's coalition had a one seat majority in the 150-seat parliament up until March 21 when one of its deputies resigned.

Work to commence on airport turbo rotunda...

Continued from page 1



Proposed turbo rotunda

Work will begin in June and is expected to take six months; completion is project in time for the end of the year holidays. Work will commence next month to prepare the alternative routes, which will include a mini-roundabout at the east end of the airport. Eastbound Traffic will be diverted from the highway at the Caya Milio Croes, by Pricesmart, and follow a route past the Avenida Watty Vos, circle the Arubus headquarters, and then use the roundabout to circle around to the airport entrance. Yellow signs will direct drivers where they are to go. Westbound traffic will be diverted from the circle to

take the route back to the Avenida Milio Croes.

The intention is for there to be a ring road which will allow traffic heading for the westerly area of the island to bypass Oranjestad entirely.

The Department of Public works wished to advise drivers of this upcoming project and apologizes for any inconvenience; work will be done at all speed. Those not traveling to the airport or destinations in the immediate vicinity are encouraged to explore alternate routes to the west side of town until the works is done, to relieve traffic congestion.

by Rosalie Klein



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Pointers to Ponder

Tony A.D. Green

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Advice for “Bad Bosses:” if there are any in Aruba’s business community!

Most people have had a boss they despised working for some time in their employment life. Perhaps this article is being read right now by someone who currently has such a boss! Having such a boss is awful, but what’s worse is if YOU are such a boss...or if You become that person.

With the work culture what it is in Aruba today- pathetic, it is even more devastating to have to work for and with someone we classify as a “bad” boss. Rather than talk to those who work for someone like that, I want to talk to the so-called “bad” boss in this article today.

If you want to avoid becoming the boss you would hate to work for, let me give you the following practical bits of advice. The advice I’m sharing with you here is what you need to practice diligently every single day until you

overcome your “badness.”

Every morning, before you leave the house, stand in front of your mirror, and repeat after me:

A. “I am really not that important.”

Arguably a business owner has influence and does impact the corporate profitability. But studies have shown that the more employees a company has the less influence a boss has. It proves that great leadership does not solve every problem. And, some problems get solved in spite of terrible leadership. So, the bottom line is, while you matter, you really don’t matter that much! So, wake up and shape up...stop throwing your weight around. Try focusing less on your skills and more on your limitations. Learn why your employees dislike you so much and work on overcoming those limita-

tions that offend them.

B. “I am really not that smart.”

Just because you’re the one in charge doesn’t mean all your opinions are valid — or should even be shared. There are times you are better off just saying nothing and allow others to share their take on an issue. They may surprise you and come up with excellent solutions. Stop thinking that they may think you are inadequate to deal with the issue. Speak only when they have exhausted their ideas and are out on a limb for solving the problem...or maybe to commend them for solving it!

Remember, holding a position of authority does not automatically confer wisdom on you. If you don’t have an answer or solution for a situation....keep quiet, even often

when you do know...keep quiet!

C. “I am really not that funny.”

From experience I have learned that leading a business/company is somewhat like being famous; your employees treat you differently simply because you’re the boss, the one in charge. But in reality your thoughts aren’t that profound. Your insights aren’t that insightful. And your jokes definitely aren’t that funny. Perhaps you have wondered why your friends don’t always think you’re so wonderful, at least they don’t think you’re as wonderful as your employees think...that’s because you’re not their boss!

D. “My employees are not my friends.”

I’m amazed at how many

bosses have a wrong conception of the relationship they should have with employees. Your job is to win customers, increase efficiency, reduce waste, and make things happen. Making friends isn’t part of the job. Mind you, you should be friendly. But you’re not required to be friends with your employees. Don’t say you have the interpersonal and professional skills to strike the right balance, because you don’t. The majority of us don’t! Someone said that... “In some cases interacting with the boss is less enjoyable than doing household chores.” Never put employees in a position to feel they should do the “friend” thing with you outside of work. Make other friends. Better yet spend more time with your family.

Continued on page 5

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Amazonia is now a lot more than meat!



Yentl and Jeff Lesker enjoy a sampling of sushi

Amazonia Churrascaria in Palm Beach has always offered a wide selection beyond the swords of sirloin and other fine meats for which they have been famous; their 40 item salad bar has sushi, seafood salad, and some of the best ceviche. THE MORNING NEWS team of taste testers has ever had, anywhere.

main course.

The phrases, "don't mess with success" and "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" come to mind with a place like Amazonia, which has mastered an excellent recipe for success, but in this case, all the changes to their menu uniformly earned two thumbs up and high praise from critical press members.

Sharing a kitchen with Aqua Grill gives Amazonia access to the fresh fish flown in daily, and the sampling of the fish of the day, Chilean Sea Bass, was exceptional. The same can be said for the prime rib, carved at the table, and a variation on their always delicious Brazilian Cheese Bread, this time with just a touch of jalapeños to wake the taste buds.

"We always get our meat lovers," commented Jeff, "but we don't want potential patrons to hold back from enjoying our great selection because it is not the preference of some members of their party. We want everyone to know they will leave here satisfied and more than pleased with their choice by the end of the evening." In addition to the meat and fish carts, Amazonia is also featuring the famous



52 item salad bar

and a selection of various new items, such as prime rib, to the

"Pasta in Parmesan" a very popular item at many of the local Italian restaurants, with Pasta Formaggio flamed at the table in a giant cheese.

"All our fish has never seen a freezer," commented Patrick, "as are all the items on our salad bar made fresh, with fresh ingredients. Along with these additions to the menu we have added some terrific Sangria, both red and white, and Caipirinha, the famous Brazilian drink, both very refreshing and a perfect match to our prix fix menu. In the near future, guests will be able to enjoy them in our lounge, with giant screens showing sporting events; Amazonia will offer a full evening of fine food that is fun, along with popular entertainment for the sports enthusiast, all at an unbeatable price."



Fresh desserts made in house

Amazonia is open 7 days a week, in the evenings from 6:00 to 11:00 PM and on Sundays from 4 to 11:00 PM; they also offer free membership to their Loyalty Program, which offers even more savings and special treatment. For reservations call 586-4444.

Aruba signs "Material and Immaterial Cultural Heritage" Treaty

ORANJESTAD -- During her welcome remarks at the regional UNESCO conference, Alice van Romondt representing Minister Michelle Winkelhaar-Hooyboer, reported that Aruba also became a part of the Dutch Kingdom treaty regarding our cultural heritage.

As part of this treaty we are now obligated to work conscientiously on those cultural aspects of our identity, such as our Dande, our Dera Gay, our particular customs, music, foods and architecture, etc.

The next step, according to the organizers, will be the for-

mal registration, in addition to what "Operacion Rescate" is undertaking.

The regional representative of UNESCO and the Aruba UNESCO representative are very satisfied with this important step taken by Aruba.

The General Secretary of UNESCO Aruba, Jimmy Oduber and members of the UNESCO National Commission, Irais Sankatsin-Nava, Jorge Riderstaat, Reina Hernandez, look back on a successful week of meetings and evaluations and the planning for the upcoming future 2012-2026 years.

"Pinta Bo Barrio" in the San Nicolaas Village a whopping success!



Under the leadership of Ruth Tromp-Schoop and with the cooperation of FCCA, a group of young volunteers successfully completed the painting of homes in the Village in San Nicolaas.

According to Mrs. Tromp-Schoop, the BoBarrio project has two parts: "...One part is the solidarity and making people aware of the importance of their barrio and what their responsibilities are. And, the second part is the infrastructure. There are certain barrios that are practically ready to receive new illumination and refurbished sidewalks...hence, a

new positive image for such a barrio! There is a team appointed to look into matters that are not related to physical material. In each barrio attention is given to all aspects of life of the citizens."

The organizers are very pleased with the cooperation of FCCA. They are the first stakeholder to lend a helping hand to this project. Director of FCCA, Mr. Van Poppel has been a staunch supporter from the very inception of the BoBarrio project. Today, they can look back to a successful completion of the San Nicolaas Village BoBarrio project!



Carving table with Prime Rib

Amazonia Manager Patrick van der Berg and Jeff Lesker welcomed island media to the stylish eatery on Thursday evening, April 19 to introduce an expanded salad bar (now 52 items) a new dessert selection produced fresh by Chef Victor, and the addition of mobile carving carts with fresh fish

Amazonia is also featuring the famous

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Pointers: Bad bosses...

Continued from page 3

Keep relationships separate and you'll be a better leader. I had an employee who wanted to have my position and would often invite employees to his home for eats and treats to make friends and show how much better a leader he was for having them as his friends. I didn't fall for the trap...I was convinced that my job was to be friendly, but not to make friends!

E. "My employees will never care as much as I do."

Stop kidding yourself. They won't ever care as much, nor should they, in essence. It does not matter how dependable or self-motivated they are, and no matter what incentives you provide, your employees are still employees. The business is YOURS, not theirs, or YOU are the one ultimately responsible by virtue of your position, not they! You should care more. I hasten to say that you should set high standards and expect excellence — but don't expect the same level of dedication. If you expect the same level of allegiance and responsibility as yours you will become totally frustrated and you will disengage your employees. Inspire the people who work for you, the people who answer to you. Set high standards and achievable goals for them and help them to achieve those goals.

And change, ...become a "good boss" by looking into your mirror everyday and repeating these 5 important statements: I am really not that important! I am really not that smart! I am really not that funny! My employees are not my friends! My employees will never care as much as I do!

If this was helpful, drop me a line and let me know! Thanks.

tonygreen.morningnews@hotmail.com

Caribbean Gateway: Ready to Run the Race?

Aruba is not the only Caribbean country which has set its vision on becoming a "gateway" and a logistical intermediary in global supply chains interconnecting North America, Europe, South America and Asian countries.

The Cayman islands recently opened several virtual business parks for high-tech, social media, bio-technology, and also introduced electric public transportation. Last year Jamaica launched its international center for entrepreneurship with venture capital from

Richard Branson. The Bahamas more than doubled its foreign direct investment from Chinese investors. Barbados is in the process of executing an economy-wide program on 'Green Barbados'; it's vision being the most advanced green economy in the Caribbean.

Likewise, Bermuda is starting the largest international academic park in the Caribbean. Curacao is expanding its 'free e-zones' and is considering the development of a 'green town'. And these are just a few of the many recent

trends in the Caribbean, which is 'going globally green', according to Prof. Dr. Ryan Peterson, who has been working with different Caribbean destinations on innovation policies and programs.

The visions of 'going globally green' for economic diversification are certainly not a novelty. Over the past decades, Caribbean economies have experienced productivity loss and a economic (financial) stagnation in service exports, while simultaneously new emerging markets are spawning like fish.

The share of Caribbean trade in global trade has subsequently been declining for over a decade. The recent (ongoing?) recession simply sealed the faith of past (tourism-intense and offshore financial) developments and success.

While walking the talk (and talking the walk!) may have been important over the past decade, today execution and the realization of 'going globally green' has become an urgent imperative.

Continued on page 11



Prof. Dr. Ryan R. Peterson, PhD, MSc.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

John Edwards goes on trial over mistress money

GREENSBORO (AFP) - Opening statements were heard yesterday in the trial of John Edwards, a two-time presidential hopeful accused of illegally using political campaign money to hide a love affair from the public and his cancer-stricken wife.

Edwards, a former Democratic senator who was White House candidate John Kerry's vice presidential choice in 2004, arrived at the court in Greensboro, North Carolina accompanied by his eldest daughter Cate.

Nine men and seven women were chosen as a panel for the 12-member jury -- four will serve as alternates -- before the opening statements began.

Prosecutor David Harbach said Edwards's "image of a



John Edwards

family man was critical to his campaign," and that he would do "anything to maintain his chance of being president."

"Edwards did what he always did, deny, deceive, manipulate," Harbach told the

court.

The 58-year-old former champion of the Democratic Party faces six criminal charges related to accepting nearly \$1 million to hide his affair with videographer Rielle Hunter and the child he fathered with her.

In the indictment, prosecutors argue that Edwards broke the law by accepting the cash as an illegal contribution to his 2008 presidential campaign so he could maintain his whiter-than-white image.

Defense lawyer Allison Van Laningham said her client "fell from grace in a very public, very humiliating way."

"The evidence will show that John Edwards did not have a criminal intent," she told the court.

George Zimmerman freed after posting bail: US media

MIAMI, Florida (AFP) - Neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman was released from Florida prison early yesterday after posting a \$150,000 bond following a second-degree murder charge for shooting an unarmed black teenager.

A spokeswoman for the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, Kim Cannaday, confirmed Zimmerman's release, which came after a bail hearing on Friday. If convicted, Zimmerman could face life in prison.

Prosecutors say the teen Trayvon Martin was simply "minding his own business" when he was accosted and shot dead by Zimmerman after buying some candy and a bottle of ice tea from a local store in Sanford.

The case drew an emotional

reaction from President Barack Obama after sparking demonstrations around the country as Martin's family, lawyers and civil rights leaders alleged he was a victim of racial profiling.

During the hearing Zimmerman told police he had been tracking Martin after viewing him as suspicious but shot purely in self-defense after being assaulted.

Prosecutor Bernie De La Rionda urged the Florida judge to deny bail or at least put it at \$1 million but the defense suggested the price for Zimmerman's release until his yet unscheduled trial should be \$15,000.

After hearing arguments from both sides, Judge Kenneth Lester set bail at \$150,000 but imposed conditions including electronic GPS tracking,

a dusk-to-dawn curfew and a requirement for him to report every three days to the authorities.

Zimmerman had to post 10 percent of the bail amount, or \$15,000, to make bail.

Authorities are also seeking to put in place arrangements for Zimmerman to live outside Florida pending the trial.

Both he and his family, who testified via video link for their own safety, have received threats.

Also late yesterday, Zimmerman filed a plea of not guilty, the court said.

"There is a written plea of not guilty in there," a spokeswoman from the clerk's office at the court in Sanford told AFP, referring to documents waiving Zimmerman's right to appear at his May 8 arraignment.

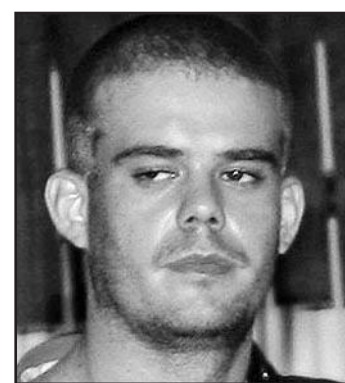
Peru studies US request to extradite Van der Sloot

LIMA, Peru - A lawyer for Joran van der Sloot says Peru is evaluating a request by the United States to extradite the jailed Dutchman, who is the main suspect in the 2005 disappearance of Natalee Holloway in Aruba.

Van der Sloot is serving a 28-year sentence in Peru for killing a woman he met in a Lima casino.

The 24-year-old also faces extortion charges in Alabama for allegedly receiving \$25,000 from Holloway's mother to tell her where to find the remains of her daughter, who was 18 when she disappeared while on vacation.

Attorney Maximo Altez



said yesterday the U.S. extradition request "is in the process of being evaluated" by Peruvian authorities.

The lawyer says his client fears extradition because U.S. prisons have a reputation for being "very hard" on inmates.

Carter warns against war with Iran

CHICAGO (AFP) - Former US President Jimmy Carter warned against a possible war with Iran yesterday as he decried his nation's involvement in unjust conflicts at a summit of Nobel Peace Prize laureates in Chicago.

Carter, a naval veteran who served as Democratic president from 1977 to 1981, said that while he is "not against conflict when necessary," the criteria for a just war are often not met.

War is only just when it is a "last resort" after "every other possible peaceful resolution" is exhausted, when all efforts are made to protect civilians, when the purpose of the conflict is to make the situation better, not worse, when society in general agrees it is just and when the level of violence is "proportional to the injury received," he said.

"That would obviously exclude our recent policy of pre-emptive war," Carter said in a keynote address.

The United States has been "almost constantly at war" in

the past 60 years -- in Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, El Salvador, Libya, Panama, Haiti, Yugoslavia, Iraq, Afghanistan and many others.

"And now we are contemplating going to war again perhaps in Iran," said the 2002 Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Most of those wars fail to meet the criteria for a just war and "some of them were completely unnecessary."

Carter said he wished the United States could be seen as a champion of peace, an environmental leader, and the world's most generous nation when it comes to feeding the hungry and opposing human rights abuses.

"That's not a hopeless dream," Carter said.

"Maybe for my generation, yes, maybe for my children's generation yes, but not for my grandchildren and students who are looking at Nobel laureates and saying what can I do to make this world more peaceful and make sure that all aspects of human rights prevail."

International News

Chavez says will return to Venezuela this week

CARACAS (AFP) - Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said Monday in a telephone interview he would return home this week after cancer treatment in Cuba, in an apparent bid to quell speculation that his health was failing.

"I should be there in Caracas, God willing, on April 26," Chavez told state television VTV -- a call-in that marked the first time Venezuelans had heard his voice live on state media in more than a week.

The 57-year-old president also said he also would need to return to Cuba for another round of radiation and tests.

Since arriving in Havana last week for what was earlier described as a final round of radiation therapy, Chavez -- usually omnipresent in state media -- only communicated via Twitter and written statements, with no TV appearances.

The last new message on his Twitter feed appeared on Saturday. Some critics suggested the firebrand leftist president may have taken a turn for the worse, and slammed what they called his ruling from abroad by tweet.

But at the weekend, his ministers quickly rallied behind their leader, saying nothing was wrong.

"The only one on his last leg is that piece of nothing," Information Minister Andres Izarra said on Twitter, using a barb

Chavez often uses to describe his rival in the October 7 presidential election, Henrique Capriles.

Chavez had surgery in late February in Havana after a recurrence of the cancer he was originally diagnosed with last year.

He has been undergoing treatment after the removal of a malignant tumor in the same area of his pelvis where another such tumor was removed in June 2011.

Officials in Caracas have never specified the type of cancer Chavez has or exactly where it is, but insist it has not spread to other organs.

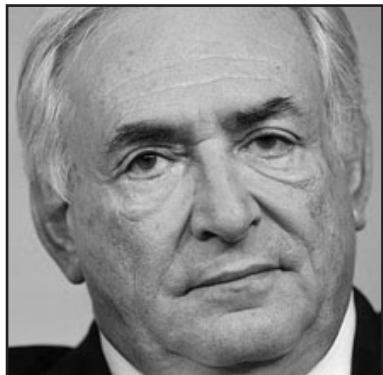
Earlier this month, Chavez made an emotional plea that put his health and political future in the spotlight, begging to God at a pre-Easter mass: "Please don't take me yet."

"Give me your crown of thorns, Christ, I will bleed; Give me your cross, 100 crosses -- and I will carry them for you. But give me life, because I still have things to do for my people and my country," Chavez said.

In power since 1999, Chavez is running for a third six-year term as president in the October election. He faces a tough challenge from the youthful united opposition candidate Capriles.

Chavez is the most prominent face of the left in Latin America.

NY judge set to decide on Strauss-Kahn



NEW YORK (AFP) - A New York judge is expected to rule Friday whether disgraced French politician and former IMF chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn will face a civil lawsuit filed by a hotel maid accusing him of sexual assault.

Lawyers for Strauss-Kahn asked McKeon in March to throw out the suit brought by Nafissatou Diallo, arguing that

the Frenchman was protected by diplomatic immunity as head of the International Monetary Fund.

Diallo, who is seeking unspecified damages, says Strauss-Kahn forced her into oral sex in his luxury hotel room in Manhattan, where she had entered to clean.

Strauss-Kahn says consensual sex took place. New York prosecutors dropped criminal charges against the former high-flying politician, saying that Diallo's story was undermined by lies and inconsistencies.

Strauss-Kahn faces separate, sex-related charges in France, where until the scandal in New York last year he had been seen as a leading contender for the presidency.



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Obama probe clears White House staff in sex scandal

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Barack Obama's official lawyer has found no evidence that White House advance staff were implicated in a Secret Service sex scandal in Colombia, the president's spokesman said Monday.

There was "no indication of misconduct" by White House staff, said Obama spokesman Jay Carney, revealing the existence of the investigation by the White House counsel's office for the first time.

Carney said the probe, launched out of "due diligence," was opened on Friday and finished over the weekend but found no "credible" or specific allegations against White House staff.

Six US Secret Service agents have quit over claims they brought prostitutes back to their hotel in the Caribbean resort of Cartagena when they were on a trip to prepare the

security for Obama's arrival at a regional summit.

Another six Secret Service agents have been implicated in the incident earlier this month, as well as 11 military personnel, currently under investigation by the Pentagon.

Senate homeland security committee chairman Joe Lieberman called on Sunday for the White House to investigate whether any of its staffers were involved in the scandal -- a deep diplomatic embarrassment for the United States that overshadowed Obama's attendance at the Summit of the Americas.

Obama got his first briefing on the incident from Secret Service Director Mark Sullivan on Friday afternoon in the Oval Office.

There have been suggestions in Washington that Sullivan could lose his job over the scandal, reportedly involving

at least 20 prostitutes, but the White House has said that Obama retains confidence in him.

Officials say they will not comment further on the sleazy goings on in Cartagena until the results of several overlapping investigations are released.

The Cartagena incident first came to light after a dispute over payment involving one of the women led police to be called to the hotel and unleashed the biggest scandal in the presidential bodyguard's nearly 140-year history.

The New York Times last week published comments from the 24-year-old single mother at the center of the hoopla, saying a Secret Service agent had reneged on a deal to pay her \$800 for the night and ended up paying only \$30.

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Health & Living

Chinese researchers eye anti-AIDS gel

HONG KONG (AFP) - Chinese researchers said Monday they have discovered an HIV-blocking agent that could be developed into a gel to limit the sexual transmission of AIDS.

Zhiwei Chen, director of the AIDS Institute of the University of Hong Kong Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, said the potency of the TD-0680 molecule against sexually transmitted HIV was "encouraging".

The new molecule could be developed into a microbicide gel to "prevent HIV sexual transmission" by killing off the virus as it tries to enter the body.

This would give people, especially women, an "alternative method to protect themselves from the virus, in addition to condoms", Chen

said.

"The ideal solution is to develop an effective vaccine. Since such a vaccine remains elusive, we must explore other strategies such as topical microbicide," he said.

The TD-0680 molecule is several times more potent than Maraviroc, a Pfizer-developed equivalent which has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for clinical treatment, the Chinese scientists said.

Unprotected sex accounts for more than 90 percent of AIDS infections in China, the researchers said in a statement.

Their work was published recently in the peer-reviewed Journal of Biological Chemistry.



WHO 'concerned' over deadly mystery disease

HANOI (AFP) - The World Health Organisation said Monday it was "concerned" about an outbreak of a mysterious skin disease in central Vietnam which has killed 19 people, mostly children.

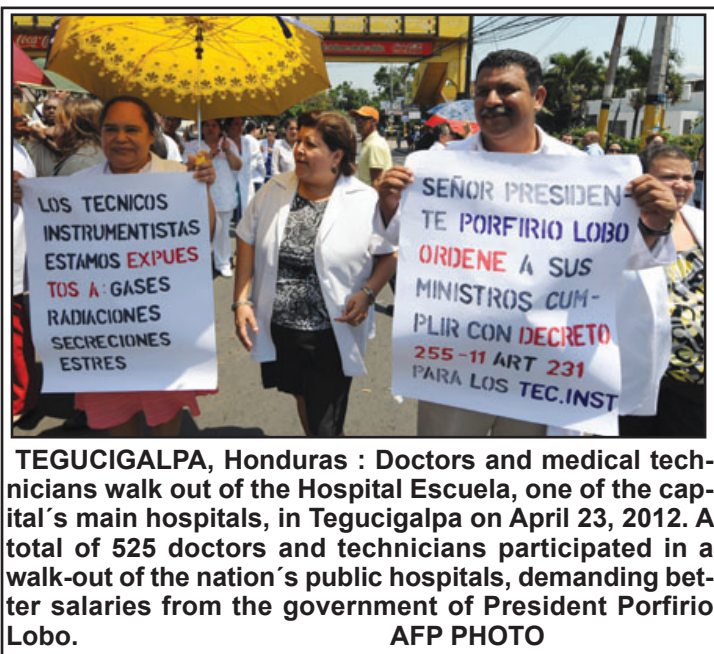
More than 170 people have fallen ill with the unidentified illness, which causes stiffness in the limbs and ulcers on victims' hands and feet that look like severe burns.

The WHO has not been given access to any official reports on the issue.

The disease appears to have been concentrated mainly in Ba To district in central Quang Ngai province and the WHO said it had not heard of similar outbreaks elsewhere in the country.

Local doctors said they were waiting for the results of a recent Ministry of Health probe.

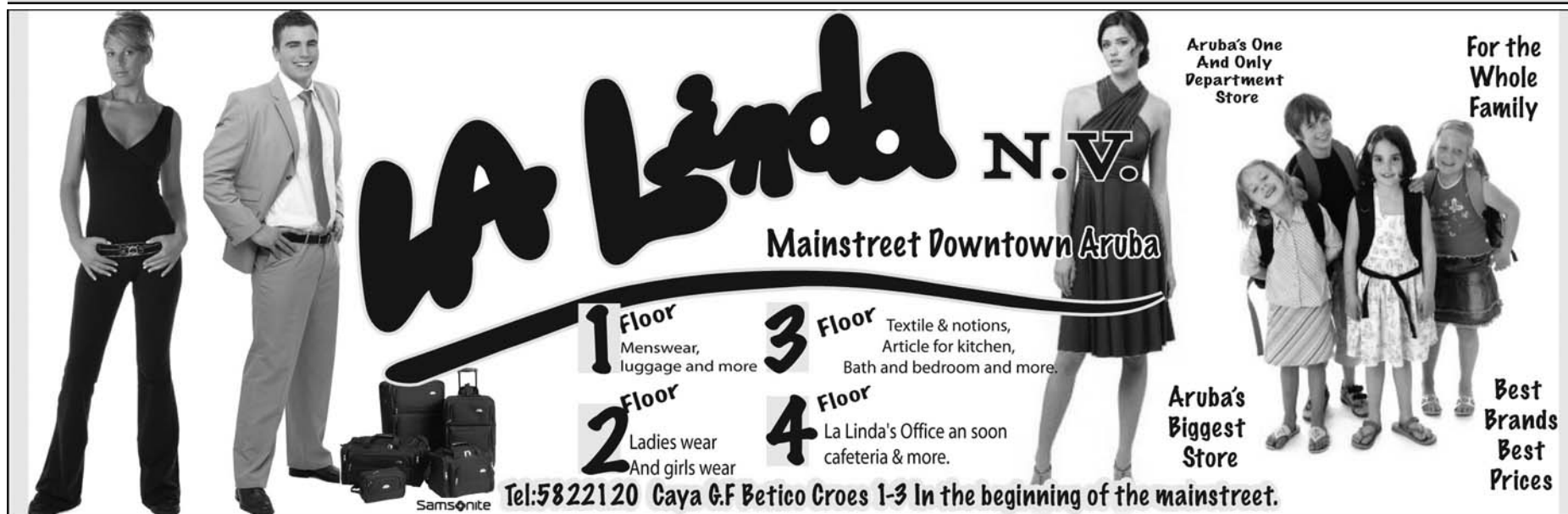
Media reports said about one in 10 of those infected had developed serious liver disorders, but said the infection does not appear to be highly contagious.



Health Tip: Spot the Symptoms of Heart Attack

-- Women may not initially suspect that they're having a heart attack -- especially if they don't have the obvious chest pain. The Womenshealth.gov website mentions these common symptoms of heart attack:

- An uncomfortable feeling or pain in the chest.
- Strange and uncomfortable sensations throughout the upper body.
- Shortness of breath.
- Breaking out in a cold sweat.
- Feeling unusually fatigued for no apparent reason.
- Sudden feelings of dizziness or lightheadedness.
- Feeling nauseated.



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Sci-Tech

Facebook to pay Microsoft \$550 million for patents



(AFP) - Facebook announced Monday it would pay Microsoft \$550 million for some of the patents the software giant recently acquired from AOL.

Facebook will pick up around 650 of the 925 patents Microsoft bought earlier this month in an auction from AOL in a nearly \$1.1 billion deal, Facebook and Microsoft said in a statement.

Facebook's general counsel called the move "another significant step in our ongoing process of building an intellectual property portfolio to protect Facebook's interests over the long term."

"Today's agreement with Facebook enables us to recoup over half of our costs while achieving our goals from the AOL auction," added Microsoft executive vice presi-

dent Brad Smith.

Facebook also arranged to license the remaining 275 remaining patents or applications in the portfolio being bought by Microsoft, which gets the right to use the patented technology going to the California-based social network.

"Today's agreement with Microsoft represents an important acquisition for Facebook," said the social network's general counsel Ted Ulyot.

"This is another significant step in our ongoing process of building an intellectual property portfolio to protect Facebook's interests over the long term."

Russian scientists in quest to find elusive white orca



PARIS (AFP) - A team of Russian scientists say they will embark on a quest next week to observe the only all-white, adult killer whale ever spotted -- a majestic and elusive bull they have named Iceberg.

The researchers from the universities of Moscow and Saint Petersburg first spotted the orca's towering, two-metre dorsal fin break the surface near the Commander Islands in the North Pacific in August 2010.

Living in a pod with 12 other family members, Iceberg was deemed to be at least 16

years old, given the size of his dorsal fin, said Erich Hoyt, co-director of the Far East Russia Orca Project (FEROP).

"This is the first time we have ever seen an all-white, mature male orca," Hoyt told AFP. "It is a breathtakingly beautiful animal."

The scientists decided to hold back on releasing photographs of Iceberg until they were able to study him further, "but we have been looking for him ever since," said Hoyt.

Orcas can travel thousands of kilometres (miles).

The scientists would like to establish whether Iceberg is

albino -- a genetic condition that leaves animals unable to produce melanin, a dark pigment of skin, hair and the eye's retina and iris.

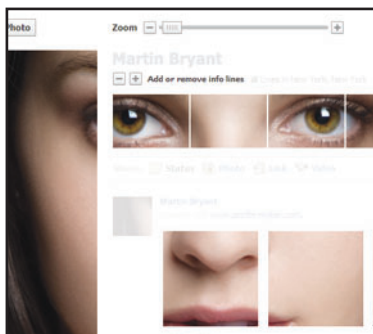
Many albino animals never grow into adulthood. Their visibility is a disadvantage in the hunt for food and protection against predators.

Two other white orcas are known to live in the waters where Iceberg was spotted, east of Kamchatka peninsula in Russia's far-east, but they are juveniles.

In 1970, a two-year-old white orca, Chimo, was captured in Canada for a dolphinarium, and was diagnosed with a type of albinism after its death two years later.

The FEROP team will set out for Bering Island next week as part of a project to study the social behaviour and communication of the Kamchatkan orca population, which they say is under threat from overfishing and plans to expand oil and gas exploration.

On Facebook, beauty is more than screen deep



PARIS (AFP) - Having attractive friends will make you more popular on Facebook, especially if you are a woman, according to a new study that takes Charles Darwin into the domain of cyber networking.

The findings show that signs of reproductive fitness sway our decisions about friendship, Dutch researcher Piet Kommers told AFP.

"People are attracted by other people who look very healthy, happy and productive in a sexual sense. That is an accepted evolutionary law," he said.

"The very pure healthiness aspect is still dominant. It is hard to suppress that."

The University of Twente team created four mockup Facebook profiles using pictures of a man and a woman deemed "neutral" for attractiveness in a pre-test evaluation.

Two profile pages were created for each of them.

One page had photographs of two attractive "friends" -- a man and a woman -- and the other had two unattractive ones.

The profiles were otherwise identical, listing the owners' place of residence, birth date, interests and favourite movies, music and TV shows.

Scientists then showed the profiles at random to 74 students between the ages of 21 and 31, asking them to rate the profile holder's "social attractiveness".

Participants had to consider such questions as "I think he/she could be a friend" or "He/she would be pleasant to be with".

The respondents were a whopping 20 percent likelier to choose the profile with "attractive" friends, the investigators found.

"The appearance of one's Facebook friends in fact influences the perception of the profile owner," the study said.

"More specifically, the attractiveness of one's associates on Facebook has a direct positive influence on one's own social attractiveness."

Having beautiful friends was especially important for the popularity of women, it found.

The study was published Monday in the International Journal of Web Based Communities.

The authors note that the opposite is also true. Having unattractive images could harm the appeal of individuals and businesses using social networking sites, they warn.



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Finance

US Social Security to use up reserves by 2033

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US public pension system will exhaust its reserves in 2033, three years earlier than previously estimated as the gap between income and payments continues to grow, according to an official report yesterday.

Projections show that Social Security, which currently sends crucial retirement and disability payments to about 55 million people, will not be able to meet all of its obligations to Americans 21 years from now.

While the assets of the Social Security system, the so-called trust fund, hit \$2.7 trillion at the end of last year, the shortfall between the fund's

tax income and payments made during the year rose to \$148 billion -- and is expected to increase 11.5 percent this year.

"In 2011, Social Security's cost continued to exceed both the program's tax income and its non-interest income," the report from the fund's trustees said. They added that the shortfall would "continue throughout the short-range period and beyond."

A parallel report showed the resources of Medicare, the government's health benefits program, will exhaust its surplus funds by 2024, unchanged from last year's report.

"Pressures on these programs are mounting -- Americans are living longer and the number of retirees is growing," said US Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner.

"These reports emphasize the importance of building consensus on reforms that will put these programs on a sounder financial footing."

Caribbean Gateway: Ready to Run...

Continued from page 5

With similar visions for increasing competitiveness and sustainable economic development, today's competitive (island) nations will be determined by the capability to execute their policy, plans and programs with tenacity, consistency, synergy and speed.

While "out-thinking" the competition was a requirement a decade ago, today competitive Caribbean economies need to "out-act" and "out-pace" the competition. For many this new 'hyper-competitive' environment seems like a 'red queen' game, in which we do all the running and are not moving forward. No longer can we afford to simply 'walk the talk'; we need to 'run the race', according to the Prof. Dr. Ryan R. Peterson from the University of Aruba.

Last year Prof. Peterson was invited by Cariforum, Unesco and the European Union to share his expertise and studies on emerging developments and best practices on national innovation. In a Caribbean tour of 'latinovation' over the past months Peterson presented and consulted on different policies and programs for socio-economic innovation and sustainable competitiveness in Barbados, Bermuda, Curacao, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Dominican Republic and Trinidad & Tobago. While different in terms of history, culture, policy and politics, these destinations



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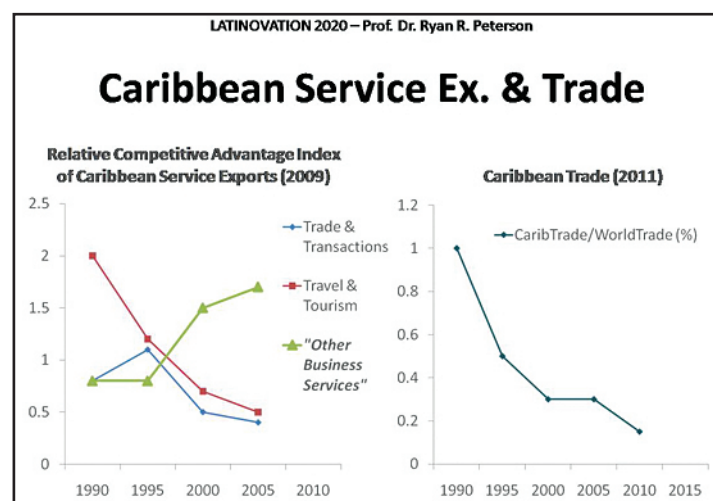
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American Airlines argues in bankruptcy court to throw out labor contracts with unions



American Airlines employees are seen protesting in front of U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Monday, April 23, 2012 in New York. American Airlines appeared in federal court yesterday to convince a bankruptcy judge that to survive, it must break labor agreements that workers fought decades to win. American wants to eliminate 13,000 union jobs, freeze or terminate pension plans, curb health benefits, reduce time off, and impose many other cuts.



share at least one common strategy: finding competitive ways of diversification and innovation in small service-driven economies towards improving productivity, sustainability, and quality of life.

The Cariforum and the European Union have mobilized well over €m 350 for the integration of Caribbean economies into the world economy to enhance regional economic growth. Based on his experience and expertise with small-island economies and national innovation, Prof. Peterson has been conducting research and development on creative and competitive ways of enhancing competitiveness and innovation, promoting trade and 'knowledge-driven' service export development, stimulating

international investment relationships, and more importantly local investments, entrepreneurship and assistance and coaching programs for local small and medium-sized enterprises, which are the 'backbone' of Caribbean island economies.

According to Prof. Peterson, 'latinovation' is not only about the geographic concentration of innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean, but more importantly about the (tri-) lateral relationships, knowledge-based partnerships and transparent trust that needs to exist between different local, regional and international actors and institutions in order to realize Caribbean gateways towards a sustainable future for all to thrive and enjoy.

Canada, EU free trade pact expected this year

OTTAWA (AFP) - Canada and the European Union are on track to finalize a free trade pact within six months, Denmark's trade minister said yesterday.

Now in its tenth round of negotiations in Brussels, a Canada-EU free trade agreement should be finalized "within half a year," Minister Pia Olsen Dyhr told a joint press conference with her

Canadian counterpart Ed Fast.

"We're at the end game," she said, noting that negotiations are 75 percent completed and only a few key issues such as Canada's farm supply management system and rules of origin labeling still need to be hammered out.

Denmark is the current holder of the presidency of the Council of the European Union.



Current as of:
04/23/2012

	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.81
Britain	GBP	2.80	2.85	2.91
Switzerland	CHF	194.46	195.18	195.98
Netherlands	EUR	231.75	233.87	236.22
Sweden	SEK	25.40	26.12	26.92
Denmark	DKK	30.47	31.19	31.99
Norway	NOK	29.97	30.69	31.49
Japan	JPY	217.59	219.58	221.78

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MONDAY'S Crossword Answer

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Weight loss enthusiasts walk in National Park



"Perde pa Gana 5" (Lose to Gain 5), special weight loss healthy eating program, is a collaboration of volunteers and Subway fast food restaurants to promote a healthy diet and exercise for those wanting to loose weight. Just recently

they organized a successful walk through the National Arikok Park here. That was the first of their many planned activities.

Parke Arikok is believed to be the ideal place to do walks not only for the beauty of na-

ture in its lucious natural habitat, but especially because of the terrain. The Park terrain offers many climbs and inclines, turns, and other challenges to make your walk more intensive and beneficial for a nice distance of 5km.

Participants had the opportunity to burn calories during a challenging walk through our National Park. Following the walk they participated in an interesting educational session. They received valuable information regarding nutrition, and how to eat and drink healthy. Perhaps the highlight of the occasion was the presentation of Subway's "fresh fit" menu.

The "fresh fit" menu offers participants a variety of healthy and fresh foods containing very little fat and calories. Anyone interested in losing weight and eating healthy should register to participate in Subway's "Fresh Fit" program. Registration remains open to anyone not yet registered and who wants to take on the challenge of reducing their weight.

Subway invites everyone to visit anyone of their many restaurants strategically located around the island and sign up for the famous "Perde pa Gana 5" program. Choose the option to eat healthy and begin to live healthy with a well balanced weight.

Life imitates art as Cuban actors appear to defect



Javier Nunez Florian and Anailin de la Rua de la Torre

NEW YORK (AFP) - Two Cuban actors due to attend a New York premiere of their movie about defecting to America have failed to show up, organizers said Monday, in a bizarre case of life imitating art.

The pair of young actors was to have attended a screening of the movie "Una Noche" -- which means "One Night" -- at New York's Tribeca Film Festival late Thursday.

But en route to New York from Havana late last week actress Anailin de la Rua de la Torre and co-star Javier Nunez Florian disappeared during a stopover at Miami International Airport and have not been seen since.

Officials with the film festival said a third actor in the film, Dariel Arrechada, had shown up as scheduled in New York.

Arrechada told The Huffington Post news website that he did not know where his co-stars were.

"I'm alone in New York,"

Arrechada, 20, told the website in Spanish, adding that he intends to return to his family and his fiancée in Cuba once he finishes promoting the movie in the United States.

"I have my whole family there -- my friends, my girlfriend. I have no one here and I don't even speak English that well either," he said.

The feature film tells the harrowing tale of three Cuban teens who try to escape the island's poverty for a new life in Miami.

The director for "Una Noche," Lucy Mulloy, said she too was caught off-guard by the actors' disappearance.

"I really was thinking that they were going to come here and enjoy the festival, and I thought they would love to participate in it," Mulloy told The Huffington Post.

The apparent defection was reported on the blogosphere back in Cuba, where well-known Cuban dissident Yoani Sanchez tweeted the news.



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Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates from Boston, Massachusetts, residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S. franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.



Rosie and Aaron love their Burger too



Gouda Burger 2

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," comments Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are made from hand-cut fresh

Idaho potatoes, is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe battered gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner - daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for the owners when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit

SPORTS

Olympics: Edwards calls for 'Olympic cycle' drugs bans

LONDON (AFP) - Triple jump great Jonathan Edwards has entered the dispute between the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and the British Olympic Association (BOA), saying both organisations have got it wrong when it comes to the length of drug bans.

The BOA have, in briefings to the national press, appeared to concede defeat in their battle with WADA to retain a by-law which has allowed them to ban any drug cheats from competing at an Olympic Games for life since 1992.

WADA insist the ruling is "non-compliant" with their global charter on anti-doping, which states an athlete found guilty of taking a prohibited substance should be given a two-year ban.

The Court of Arbitration for

Sport (CAS), which is adjudicating between the two bodies, said Monday they intended to publish their decision next week.

Should the BOA lose the case, both sprinter Dwain Chambers and cyclist David Millar are likely to be part of the British team at this year's London Olympics, despite a doping history which has seen them banned from previous Games.

But Edwards, who won triple jump gold for Great Britain at the 2000 Sydney Olympics said a lifetime ban was too long and two years too short.

Instead he wants an athlete to miss the Olympic Games subsequent to any doping ban.

"Athletes should get a second chance. I wouldn't personally support a lifetime ban,"

Edwards said.

"The reason the BOA brought their by-law is that because four-year bans for a serious drug offence turned into two. Two years is simply not enough. It's too lenient. It sends out the wrong kind of message.

"An athlete should miss one Olympic cycle if they test positive for drugs.

"What the world needs to do is to unite and introduce four-year bans. Then we would be in a much stronger position."

Looking ahead to London, Edwards said he could not foresee a problem if Chambers and Millar were selected as their British team-mates were used to competing alongside them at other international events.

Basketball: Jones completes US Olympic women's roster

COLORADO SPRINGS, (AFP) - Asjha Jones, a 10-year Women's NBA forward who helped the United States win the 2010 world title, was named on Monday to fill the final roster spot on the US London Olympic squad.

The Americans will try to win a fifth consecutive Olympic women's basketball gold medal in August. The US women are on a 33-game Olympic win streak.

Jones plays for the Connecticut Sun in the WNBA,

near where she and five of her Olympic teammates played for the University of Connecticut's collegiate women's basketball dynasty. She also plays for Rivas Ecopolis in Spain.

"I was in disbelief and shock," Jones said of the moment she was told she was on the US roster.

The other 11 women on the US roster had been previously announced by USA Basketball.

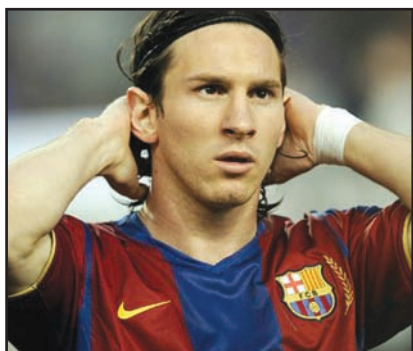
US college star Brittney Griner said herself out last week, saying family issues and

her school schedule would not allow her to play in the London Olympics.

Two-time Olympic champion Tamika Catchings and 2008 Olympic gold medalists Candace Parker, Seimone Augustus and Sylvia Fowles are back.

Sue Bird, Diana Taurasi, Swin Cash, Maya Moore and Tina Charles, all who played in college at Connecticut and on the 2010 US world championship team, are also in the US lineup for London.

Football: Lay off Messi - Guardiola



BARCELONA (AFP) - Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola declared Lionel Messi fit to play in Today's Champions League showdown with Chelsea and laughed off concerns about the Argentinian's scoring record.

Despite a remarkable year which has left Messi four goals shy of equalling Gerd Muller's all-time single-season scoring record of 67, questions have been raised about the South American's failure to find the net in recent matches.

Messi drew a blank against Chelsea in last week's 1-0 first leg defeat at Stamford Bridge and cut a frustrated figure once more at the weekend as the Catalans suffered a 2-1 loss to Real Madrid at Camp Nou.

News that Messi had missed training on Sunday also triggered alarm about his fitness for Tuesday's return match.

However Guardiola told a press conference the FIFA world player of the year was fit to play.

"Leo had a gastric issue, the doctor saw him and he called us before the training session to say he wouldn't be coming in, but now he's okay," Guardiola said, before waving off questions about Messi's mini goal-drought.

"Allow me never to worry about Lionel Messi," Guardiola said.

"He cannot score for 27 games but then he will score three goals or give three assists. So let's give him licence to spend however long he needs without scoring.

Guardiol said he was confident that if Barcelona were able to reproduce their performance of the first leg -- when they enjoyed 70 percent possession, hit the woodwork twice and carved out a string of clear chances -- they would be able to overturn Chelsea's 1-0 lead.

He also dismissed concerns that Barcelona would struggle to raise themselves for what their third major match inside six days.

"Today there's no tiredness in the legs. Maybe in the mind. But in the semi-final of a Champions League, no matter if we play three days ago or yesterday -- today we'll be ready to try and reach the final."



Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday

12:00 - 3 p.m.

Dinner

Monday - Sunday

6:00 - 11:00 p.m

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Bahrain probes assault of British TV crew's driver



Bahrain International Circuit

DUBAI (AFP) - Bahrain said Monday it is probing a deported British TV crew's allegations their driver was assaulted as the journalists covered protests surrounding the kingdom's Formula One race at the weekend.

In a message posted on micro-blogging website Twitter, the interior ministry said: "investigation launched into allegations by deported UK journalists about attack on driver".

The Channel 4 News crew, including foreign correspondent Jonathan Miller, were arrested while covering a series of Shiite-led anti-government protests late Sunday, after the completion of the controversial F1 race.

Miller managed to talk to Channel 4 News while being taken to the police station, revealing he and his team were surrounded by riot police after being detained following a short car chase.

He said the police were "very aggressive" and expressed concern over the fate of his hired Bahraini driver,

who the TV network later alleged had been "assaulted and separated from the group."

Miller and his team were deported but the fate of their driver remains unknown.

Bahrain's Formula One Grand Prix went ahead on Sunday despite a week of daily protests amid rising tensions between the kingdom's Sunni rulers and their majority Shiite population.

King Hamad was among 10,500 spectators on the main grandstand and a smaller audience watched from other platforms as double world champion 24-year-old Sebastian Vettel of Germany led from start to finish.

The race however was marred by clashes between protesters and police, leaving at least one person dead.

On Sunday, protesters burnt tyres on the main road linking the capital to Sakhr race track, as security forces stopped dozens of others from marching towards the now demolished Pearl Square in central Manama.

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Baseball: Prosecutors present case in Clemens trial



Former Major League Baseball pitcher Roger Clemens, and his attorney Rusty Hardin.

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Prosecutors portrayed former Major League Baseball pitcher Roger Clemens as a liar forced into telling bigger lies to cover-up the original one during an opening statement on Monday in his perjury retrial.

The prosecutors painted their case after 16 jurors, four of them alternates and nearly half of them with no idea about the sporting heroics of Clemens, were seated to hear the case, which continues on Tuesday with first witnesses.

Defense lawyers were set to make their opening statement on Tuesday as they pressed US District Judge Reggie Walton with motions regarding testimony admissibility and limitations.

Clemens is charged with lying when he denied taking human growth hormones (HGH) and steroids, banned

performance-enhancing drugs, in a 2008 US Congressional hearing.

Only two witnesses had been called last July when Walton declared a mistrial because prosecutors presented evidence that had already been ruled inadmissible.

Prosecutor Steven Dunham said in his opening statement that Clemens was a baseball star who became embroiled in a tale of dishonesty and deception after first denying an investigator's 2007 report that he had taken steroids and HGH.

If convicted, Clemens could face 30 years in prison and a fine of \$1.5 million, although sentencing guidelines would suggest he receive somewhere

between 15 and 21 months behind bars.

The jury set to render a verdict in the Clemens case is made up of 10 women and six men.

Walton ruled earlier on Monday that Andy Pettitte, a former Clemens teammate, will not be allowed to testify to receiving HGH from Brian McNamee, the former Clemens trainer who says he injected Clemens with steroids and HGH.

The judge delayed ruling on the motion of whether or not Clemens's lawyers can challenge the legitimacy of the Congressional hearing, saying it would add more information than would otherwise be considered as evidence in the case.

Clemens won 354 games in a 24-year career that saw him win seven Cy Young Awards as the top pitcher in his league. Nicknamed "Rocket", he is one of only four pitchers to have recorded more than 4,000 strikeouts in his career.

Clemens won the World Series twice with the New York Yankees in 1999 and 2000. He also played for Boston Red Sox, Toronto Blue Jays and Houston Astros.

NFL: Denver's Dawkins retires after 16 seasons



DENVER (AFP) - Denver Broncos defensive back Brian Dawkins announced his retirement on Monday after a 16-season National Football League career that included a trip to the 2005 Super Bowl with Philadelphia.

Dawkins, who was nagged by neck injuries late last season, missed Denver's two play-off games in January and waited six weeks after he became a free agent to make his choice.

"The Lord has blessed me to play in the NFL for 16 years," he said.

"I would like to thank the Eagles & the Broncos 4 believing in me.

"I would like 2 thank all my teammates & Coaches that I have been blessed 2 go to battle with.

"Along with u, the fans 4 helping make my career 1 that i have enjoyed tremendously. In other words. I am announcing my retirement from the NFL," Dawkins posted on his Twitter microblogging account.

The nine-time Pro Bowl selection as an NFL all-star leaves the gridiron with 37 interceptions, 28 forced fumbles and 26 quarterback sacks in 14 seasons with the Philadelphia Eagles and two final years with Denver.

"Brian Dawkins is one of the best to ever play the game, a future Hall of Famer who changed the way his position is played," Broncos head coach John Fox said.

Dawkins was a stalwart on the Eagles defense in 2005 when the club lost to New England in the Super Bowl.

"Thank you, Brian Dawkins, for being a GREAT Bronco and showing such an incredible commitment to your team and community," Broncos executive vice president and former star quarterback John Elway said in a Twitter posting.

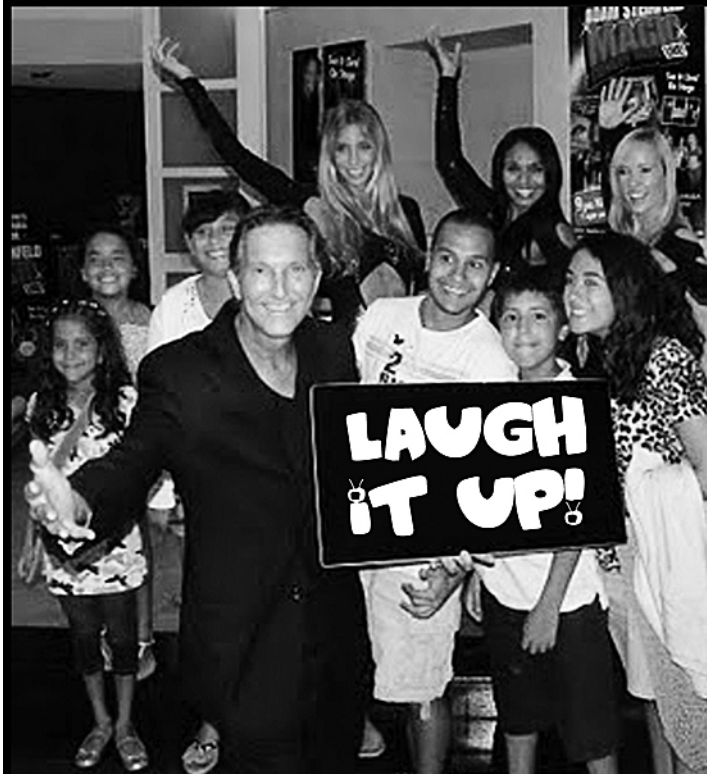
"Congratulations on a Hall of Fame career, Dawk!!!"

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COST: \$20 (under 15), \$40 adult / LOCALS: Afl. 40

TICKETS: at the theater door

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MLB Standings

American League					National League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB	East	W	L	Pct	GB
TORONTO	9	6	.600	--	WASHINGTON	12	4	.750	--
YANKEES	9	6	.600	--	ATLANTA	10	6	.625	2.0
BALTIMORE	9	7	.562	0.5	NY METS	8	6	.571	3.0
TAMPA	9	7	.562	0.5	MIAMI	7	8	.467	4.5
BOSTON	4	10	.286	4.5	PHILADELPHIA	7	9	.438	5.0
Central					Central				
DETROIT	10	6	.625	--	ST. LOUIS	11	5	.688	--
CHICAGO	9	6	.600	0.5	CINCINNATI	7	9	.438	4.0
CLEVELAND	8	6	.571	1.0	MILWAUKEE	7	9	.438	4.0
MINNESOTA	5	11	.312	5.0	PITTSBURG	6	9	.400	4.5
KANSAS	3	12	.200	6.5	HOUSTON	6	10	.375	5.0
West					West				
TEXAS	13	3	.812	--	LA DODGERS	12	4	.750	--
OAKLAND	8	9	.471	5.5	COLORADO	8	7	.533	3.5
SEATTLE	7	10	.412	6.5	SAN FRANCISCO	7	7	.500	4.0
LA ANGELES	6	10	.375	7.0	ARIZONA	8	8	.500	4.0
					SAN DIEGO	5	12	.294	7.5

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50,000 Euro 2012 tickets unsold in Ukraine



WARSAW (AFP) - A total of 50,000 tickets for Euro 2012 remain unsold for matches in Ukraine, UEFA said on Monday, while playing down suggestions that rocketing accommodation prices are to blame.

"In Poland, we are basically sold out. In Ukraine, we still have around 50,000 tickets," Pedro Correia, head of UEFA's ticket operations, said in the Polish capital Warsaw.

"It's no secret that demand was far higher in Poland than in Ukraine," he told reporters pressing him to contrast the two host nations for the looming European championship.

Euro 2012 kicks off on June 8 in Warsaw and ends with the final on July 1 in the Ukrainian capital Kiev.

With more than a million fans expected to flock to the first-ever edition of Europe's top international tournament

to be held behind the former Iron Curtain, demand for accommodation has vastly outstripped supply, notably in Ukraine.

Ukraine's tourist sector has been accused of seeing Western fans as a way to make a fast buck, charging huge sums for relatively low-quality accommodation.

Visiting Ukraine earlier this month, UEFA chief Michel Platini lashed out at "bandits and crooks" there.

A c c o m m o d a t i o n headaches, plus problems in getting to locations such as the eastern Ukrainian host city of Donetsk, have been seen as denting demand for tickets.

England, for example, play their Group D opener with France on June 11 in Donetsk, and their normally ardent supporters are reported to have bought only half of the 7,000 tickets for that match available via the English Football Association.

"Concerning Ukraine, actually the results are good, because we're talking about almost 1.4 million tickets for Euro 2012, and what we have left for the tournament is 50,000," said Correia.

"There are different reasons that tickets became available, because in the last sales phase, which is ending now, the national associations did not take all their alloca-

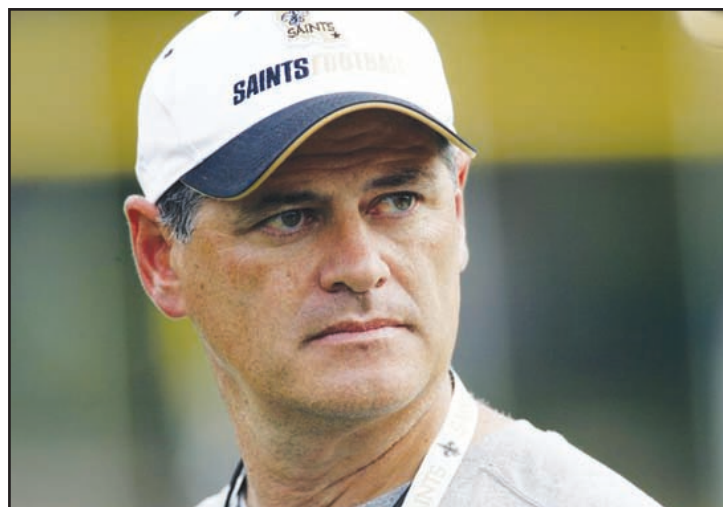
tions," he explained.

"For sure, it has to do with different reasons, probably the economic situation in Europe, the cost of travelling, the cost of accommodation," he added.

Correia insisted that precedent showed that the issue should not be overplayed.

"Usually our target is 95 percent of the tickets sold, because it's almost impossible to have 100 percent. We are within that. I think we're now at 96 or 97 percent. In the past, at Euro 2008 in Austria and Switzerland, we also sold around 60,000 tickets at the last minute. So it's not out of the ordinary," he told AFP.

NFL: Saints GM eavesdropped on rival coaches: report



NEW YORK (AFP) - New Orleans Saints general manager Mickey Loomis, already suspended by the NFL as part of a pay-to-injure scheme, also could secretly eavesdrop on rival coaches, ESPN reported on Monday.

Citing unnamed sources familiar with the Saints' home game operations, the US-based sports broadcaster reported the US Attorney's Office in Louisiana was told that Loomis listened to visit-

ing coaches for almost three NFL seasons.

The latest scandal to surround the Saints adds another taint of cheating to a team that captured a 2010 Super Bowl title to raise the spirits of a city still rebuilding from the devastation of 2005 flooding after Hurricane Katrina.

It also comes three days before the Saints try to add to their roster through the annual NFL Draft, where un-

claimed talent is allocated to NFL clubs in reverse order of their finish from the prior season.

According to ESPN, Loomis had a device in his suite at the Superdome, the team's home stadium, re-wired to allow him to eavesdrop on opposing coaches in most of the 2002 season as well as in the 2003 and 2004 campaigns.

If it was proven that Loomis actually eavesdropped on opposing coaches, the actions would not only violate NFL rules but also federal electronic communications privacy laws, provided it fell within the statute of limitations.

"This is 1,000 percent false. This is 1,000 percent inaccurate," Saints spokesman Greg Bensel told ESPN of the eavesdropping claims.

The Saints, whose home stadium will host next year's Super Bowl, are already awaiting NFL officials to de-

cide upon punishments for players who were involved in the bounty scheme that has already hit the team hard.

Saints coach Sean Payton was banned for the entire upcoming NFL season while Loomis was suspended for eight games and assistant coach Joe Vitt for six games. Vitt was named Payton's replacement once his suspension is completed.

Former Saints defensive coordinator Gregg Williams, instigator of the pay-for-injury programme that ran from 2009 through 2011, has been banned indefinitely. He can seek reinstatement after next season.

ESPN reported that a switch was altered after Loomis was made the general manager in 2002 that allowed him to listen not to his team's coaches but to opposing offensive and defensive coaches.

Damage done to the arena after Hurricane Katrina

struck the area disabled the system, but teams might not have a statute of limitations begin until they became aware of possible violations rather than the date they took place.

If there was any extra knowledge by Loomis of what opposing teams were going to do, it had little impact on the Saints' outcomes. The team went 12-12 in the Superdome in the 2002-2004 seasons, 25-23 overall.

An eavesdropping scandal harkens to the "Spygate" scandal uncovered in 2007 when the New England Patriots were found to have videotaped the coaching signals of the New York Jets in a September game.

The NFL fined Patriots coach Bill Belichick \$500,000, the maximum possible, and punished the team by making it forfeit a first-round NFL Draft selection in 2008 as well as pay a \$250,000 fine.